

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS

The Senate Considers the Tariff Bill and a Semi-Political Debate Follows.

The House Devotes Most of the Day to a Discussion of the Direct-Tax Bill—Democratic Arguments Against the Measure.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—On motion of Mr. McPherson, the Senate bill for the relief of the Erie Railway Company—referring to the Court of Claims its claim for carrying the mail on certain routes, between 1874 and 1887—was taken up and passed.

Mr. Frye's resolution of yesterday, instructing the committee on foreign relations to inquire into the state of affairs at the Samoan islands, was reported back from the committee on contingent expenses and was agreed to.

The Senate, at 12:30, resumed consideration of the tariff bill, the pending question being Mr. Harris's amendment, to reduce the duty on beams, girders, etc., from 1 1/2 per cent to 6-10 of a cent.

Mr. Vest, referring to Mr. Sherman's speech yesterday, denied the assertion that the late election had settled the question of tariff legislation. He (Mr. Vest) was not dissatisfied by that result. If the Senator from Ohio and his party thought that the election had settled the tariff question, they would not have been so busy with the tariff bill. The question would have been settled long ago, if the tariff had been settled by the election.

Mr. Vest then moved to fix the rate on steel beams, etc., at 10 per cent.

Mr. Gorman did not vote at all.

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notice that so far as he had authority with reference to the measure he should ask for its consideration every day in the morning hour and at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Mr. McPherson took up the amendments to the tariff bill, and gave it as his opinion that if the tariff bill were passed, it would be a great benefit to the country.

Mr. Vest, commenting on a remark by Mr. Allison, said that the tariff bill was a very important measure, and that it should be given the most careful consideration.

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BEAUTIES OF CERAMIC ART

A Rich and Varied Collection of Pottery Most Attractively Exhibited.

Some Rare Specimens to Be Seen Along with the Artistic Work of Potters of Today—Address of Mrs. Hussey.

The first exhibit of the Art Association for this season, began yesterday, and will continue throughout to-day and to-morrow, at the residence of Mrs. Myra Ritzinger, No. 253 North Tennessee street, who has thrown open her large parlors for the display. Through the center of the two rooms is a long table on which is placed the Rockwood and Belek ware, the chief features of the exhibit.

The Rockwood pottery is manufactured at Cincinnati, and is in the full-blown and delft state. It is distinguished by the delicate gradations of the ground color and ranges through every tint, from the darkest to the lightest tone. The colors are mostly olive and brown; for the decorations, flowers in natural and conventional forms are used, and as all is free hand, no two pieces are exactly alike.

Another ware made at the same factory is the "cameo." It comes shaded in the most delicate tints of pink, blue, buff and terra-cotta, and is daintily embellished. The articles are useful and ornamental, and comprise vases, baskets, rose jars, cups and saucers, bonbonniers, cream-jugs, sugar-bowls, teapots, chocolate pots, salad bowls, olive and bon-bon servers and jardinières. One large jardinière is tinted in blue and terra-cotta, beautifully shaded, and has a decoration of daisies. The articles are in the quaintest and oddest of shapes.

The Belek china is thin and delicate, and comes in exquisite designs, simply indescribable. The vase sent to Mrs. Harrison is of this ware, and is very beautiful. A duplicate is in the exhibit, and is for sale. There are four decorated pieces of the Belek, two in gold, one in blue and the fourth in colors. The designs are all simple, as the china is so beautiful it needs but very little, if any, decoration. A lovely dish for flowers is oblong and has a lace-work insertion, handles and edge, similar to Mrs. Harrison's vase. There are also cups and saucers, odd vases and flower-holders, pitchers, cracker jars and other articles. One form of the Belek is the bamboo, the design being ribbed, as if made of small bamboo sticks. The ware can be decorated, and the queer shapes are very desirable. There is also some American Royal Worcester, which is much admired.

Aside from the Rockwood and Belek, a number of artists here and elsewhere have loaned their work to the exhibit. Mr. Paul Putzki has a salad set, of thirteen pieces, each having a design of some incident of a salad. The design is in blue and gold, and is very beautiful. Mr. Putzki also has a square plate, with a design in yellow and white chrysanthemums.

Mrs. David Coffin has a half dozen cups and saucers, arranged in a blue and white design. The design is in blue and white, and is very beautiful. Mrs. Coffin also has a half dozen cups and saucers, arranged in a blue and white design. The design is in blue and white, and is very beautiful.

Mrs. J. C. Walker has several handsome pieces, excellent in design and work. Mrs. Walker also has a half dozen cups and saucers, arranged in a blue and white design. The design is in blue and white, and is very beautiful.

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out. It does not effervesce with acids and resists the highest temperature of the furnace. More than a firing is required to turn out the most perfect piece. Each piece of glass, enamel or paint must be subjected to fire and few good specimens are executed without two bakings and often four or five. It is impossible to such a waxy substance as glass, and the vast field of work suggested under the head of Pottery. The subject is so endless that one scarcely dares touch upon it, not knowing where the laborer will find the end of the Greek and Roman, as well as the ancient American fields, are too rich and rare to be lightly touched by an appreciative hand. A study not to be exhausted by research, but to be treasured reverently by. Even so, the early efforts of France, Germany and England, China and Japan also, tempt the lover of the beautiful to become a collector of the Pottery of the World.

A mere mention of the styles most familiar to us is all that we can venture upon today. Sometimes long to be admitted to the famous collections preserved in the different parts of the world, but if my increase of knowledge were to detract from my pleasure in my own little cups of Dresden or Limoges, I would be better to drink my tea in silence and lose my more ambitious flights in contemplation of these translucent fields of humble and familiar flowers. My trophies have resulted in some of the most beautiful and valuable pieces of pottery which I have ever seen. The creamy old "Satsuma" found everywhere in Japanese shops does not figure among native collections of value—these Satsumas being different in color and workmanship from the original Chinese decorations were in blue and white. This blue was imported to Holland, from whence we get our blue delft, so common in the pottery of the world. The Chinese decoration is often symbolic and represents the beliefs and habits of the people—ranging from pictures of Confucius to the bat. The latter is rather remarkable. Its Chinese name is the same as the word that stands for happiness, and is employed as a symbol for the latter. It is sometimes met with on pieces repeated five times, and stands for longevity, riches, tranquility, love of virtue and a happy death. Chinese gentlemen are lovers of old porcelain, and pay even higher prices than the most extravagant of Western collectors. The craze was so general, which we are all familiar, is a favorite with them and has been admired for 1,000 years. One process of making this is by covering the surface with a transparent glaze, which, when cracked upon being plunged white hot, into cold water.

Japanese porcelain is derived from the Chinese, which is frequently better than the market and with which it is often confounded, but, though the process of manufacture is the same, the Japanese is more perfect. The Japanese colors are more pure and brilliant, the figures more refined, correct and elegant, and the plants, animals, and especially the birds and fishes are more exact and original. A difficulty in the way of our understanding these wares results from a practice, which is common throughout the country, of bequeathing to a son or favorite apprentice the trade secret of pottery. Different families of men will often inscribe their names, or the name of the master, on the pieces they make. A difference in handwriting will also make copies of the same piece, which the Chinese, as good collectors. They do not have many specimens, but those they have are well preserved in velvet or silk bags and are handled with care.

The Italian field offers a tempting and abundant yield of rich and artistic material, but a passing reference to the Capo di Monte factory is sufficient. This factory for porcelain was founded by Charles IV, King of Naples. The King took great pride in it, working with his own hands and encouraging the production of good ware for the use of his subjects. On the accession of Ferdinand IV, in 1759, the second period of the works commenced. In the annual fairs, held in the palace square, the King showed great interest in the daily reports of sales, which were brought to him, with the names of the purchasers. The reports were to be found in Naples and its neighborhood. Those made in the second period, decorated with colored reliefs, are less common than the plain white, having been produced in smaller quantities. They are of the most exquisite style and flower work, as well as groups of figures, which are delicately painted and of great artistic value. The factory closed in 1806, and the King showed great interest in the daily reports of sales, which were brought to him, with the names of the purchasers.

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doing fairly well. There are two firms in New Jersey turning out a very beautiful line of goods. Messrs. Ott & Brewer and Willets. Each claim imported Irish laborers from Belek. We have in our collection some exquisite pieces of pottery, which they claim to be of the same quality as the original. They are of the most exquisite style and flower work, as well as groups of figures, which are delicately painted and of great artistic value. The factory closed in 1806, and the King showed great interest in the daily reports of sales, which were brought to him, with the names of the purchasers.

Mrs. Hussey had pieces of china representing the several makes mentioned in the paper. Among them was a tea set and tray in pure white with figures from celebrated pictures. The set was made in 1736, and loaned by Mrs. Ritzinger, and the same ware, made later, with the figures of the same pictures, was loaned by Mrs. Hussey. The set was made in 1736, and loaned by Mrs. Ritzinger, and the same ware, made later, with the figures of the same pictures, was loaned by Mrs. Hussey.

Superiority of American Workmen. PITTSBURGH, Dec. 11.—A couple of Pittsburgh tube-workers have just been engaged to go to England to teach the employees in the conglomerate tube-works some new points in the manufacture of tubing. They have a contract at \$5 per day. Thomas Longmore, one of the proprietors of the great English plant, was in the city and left for New York this afternoon, en route for home. He has been making a tour of the steel-mills of this country, and he was greatly impressed with the high quality of the workmen, and the fact that he had seen, and pleased with the reception which had been tendered him by the manufacturers of Pittsburgh and Ohio. "I am taking a couple of workmen back with me," said he, "but I do not care to discuss the matter to any extent. I am afraid my manufacturers might think I was trying to secure some of the best men." Mr. Longmore's principal object is to gradually inaugurate a new system in his factory, to run it on the American plan. Mr. Longmore is a native of England. "We have," said he, "a very good trade in America, and it is increasing."

Foreign Flags Not Wanted. CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 11.—The new central viaduct, an immense iron structure, connecting the city with the suburbs, with the business portion of the city, was formally dedicated to-day. The viaduct is 101 feet in height and about three-quarters of a mile in length. The structure has been decorated in honor of the event, with the flags of foreign nations. The decorations consisted of flags and festoons of evergreens. The flags of foreign nations predominated, there being 66 of them, and 20 United States flags. The decorations were made by the Grand Army of the Republic, and were much admired. The decorations were made by the Grand Army of the Republic, and were much admired.

Fire-Arms for Playthings. CINCINNATI, Dec. 11.—At Middletown, O., yesterday afternoon, Mrs. Samuel Cook and her two children, aged three and four years, in the house while she went to the grocery. On her return she heard the report of a gun, and as the door opened she saw the four-year-old child (Robert), who was saying: "Don't cry, Charlie, and I'll get it." Entering the room she found Charlie on the floor with a bullet wound in the head. A .45 caliber rifle, belonging to an old soldier, was in the room, but supposed to be out of reach of the children.

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